

The Organization of the International GPS Service for Geodynamics and the Products Available to Users

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The International GPS Service for Geodynamics (IGS) is an organization which operates under the auspices of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and was established by the IAG in January 1994. The primary objective of the IGS is to provide GPS data and data products to support geodetic and geophysical research activities. A secondary objective of the IGS is to provide support for diverse operational activities undertaken by government or selected commercial organizations.

The IGS data and products that are readily available and accessible to users include high accuracy GPS ephemerides, earth rotation parameters, the coordinates and velocities of the ground tracking stations, GPS satellite and clock information, and ionospheric information. The generation of the data and products is accomplished through a global network of about 50 precise tracking stations, data centers, analysis centers, a Central Bureau and an International Governing Board. The IGS Central Bureau, located at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and funded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, maintains an information system, which is accessible through anonymous ftp (igs.cb.jpl.nasa.gov, Internet address 128.149.70.41). The Information System handles e-mail communications among IGS participants and maintains files of interest to providers and users of IGS-related information.

This presentation will describe the development and organization of the IGS as well as how to access the Central Bureau Information System.

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